

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE | FEBRUARY 2022
BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

PRESIDENT'S SHOUT-OUT

As many of you know, all community and technical colleges are required by statute to have a five-person Board of Trustees. What some of you may not know is that for some time we have been running with only three Trustees because of two unfortunate and untimely vacancies. Well, the governor's office has recently finished the process of appointing individuals to our vacant Trustee positions, so I thought I would (re)introduce you to our Board of Trustees.

Current Board Members:



Debbie Ahl



Richard Kaiser, Chair



Bradley Smith, Vice Chair

Our current Board chair is Richard Kaiser, who was appointed in July 2020. Rick is an engineer and oceanographer who has worked in both industry and education. (Rick has the distinction of being a virtual-only trustee – he has yet to attend a meeting that was held in person.) Dr. Bradley Smith was appointed to the Board in March 2018. Brad brings years of experience in environmental science from both government and higher education positions, with a special interest in fisheries issues. Local business executive Debbie Ahl has served on the Board since March 2011; Debbie has been a long-time supporter of BTC as well as being a major leader in community service organizations around the county.

To fill our vacancies, we have two Trustees whose terms began February 7, 2020.



Jim Groves returns to the Board to serve as our required labor representative. Jim, who previously served on the board from 2009 to 2020, is a former journeyman electrician with IBEW, having worked in construction for most of his career, as well as a former student at BTC (actually BVTI at the time). Jim lives in Bellingham with his wife LoBay and a huge blended-extended family. Jim says he is happy and excited to return to the Board and that BTC "staff, faculty, and students are the best".



Our brand new trustee is Ann McQuade. Originally from Omaha, Ann is a retired Air Force nurse who has worked overseas and all over the U.S. She has lived in Bellingham since 2006 with her radiologist husband Charles and two daughters, volunteering in various capacities in her children's schools, her church, and her neighborhood association. Ann says that as a first-generation college graduate herself she welcomes the opportunity to help students achieve their goals, recognizing that "BTC graduates make a tremendous impact in our local area."

We appreciate the work that our Trustees do for our campus community and look forward to achieving great things together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wade H...".

DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

Freightliner Northwest/Western Star Northwest has generously donated many training aids including running engines to Washington state schools that applied for them. Happily, BTC was among one of the many that received an engine. Our donated EPA2007 Detroit Diesel DD15 engine will be used for students to get hands-on repair time and verify their correction by running the engine afterwards. Thank you to Freightliner Northwest for supporting your local school programs with the generous donations!



STUDENT LIFE / ASBTC

The Associated Students of Bellingham Technical College (ASBTC) hosted several events and programs recently.

ASBTC Food Drive

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to the ASBTC Food Drive held in January. BTC's ASB received a large number of food donations, which completely filled up the shelves with food and grocery items for meals. The food pantry supports students who experience food insecurity and goes a long way toward helping students, especially in these unstable times. Thank you for your support. And, even though the Food Drive is over, we are always accepting food and personal care items at the Student Center, Room 300 Campus Center. Please feel free to drop it off.

Date and Paint

The ASBTC executive team hosted a virtual painting class on Friday, January 28, led by local artist and owner of Art and Happiness, Elli Anderson. Over 30 students attended the two-hour event to paint their rendition of a winter wonderland: a painting of snowy mountain landscape where a cabin is nestled in the rigid cold of a winter sunset. The Date and Paint event was a momentous success in our ongoing effort to connect with BTC students during these unconventional and stressful times. Thank you all who attended, and remember to visit our Instagram page where you can find students' art work.

Suicide Prevention Training

Unfortunately, with today's current stresses, suicide rates have been on the rise on all college campuses. To be proactive, BTC's Counseling Center has taken on the initiative to be trained and certified in suicide prevention. BTC's Counselors are determined to make an even bigger impact and want to share this knowledge. In an effort to meet this goal, the ASBTC Executive team will be participating in a Suicide Prevention Training offered by the Counseling Center in February. The goal and hope is to make this training more available campus wide in the future. The ASBTC Executive team is honored that the counselors would share this knowledge with them and provide the tools to better support and advocate for our students' mental health.

CUSP Legislative Advocacy Week January 31-February 4

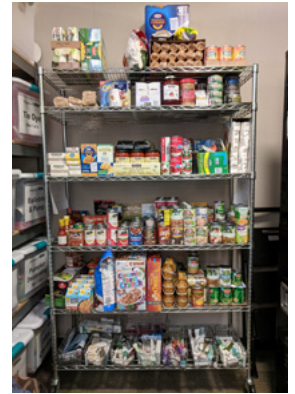
January 31 to February 4 was the CUSP Legislative Advocacy Week. The ASBTC team along with BTC Interim President Walter Hudsick and BTC's Student Life employees met with local legislators to discuss the legislative platforms developed through the Washington Community and Technical College Student Association. This legislative platform includes the issues of mental health accessibility, food insecurity in students, and the price of textbooks. During these meetings, our ASBTC team focused on two bills currently in progress for mental health, requesting a focus on open education resources for technical studies, and expanded resources for college-based food pantries.

Food Drive

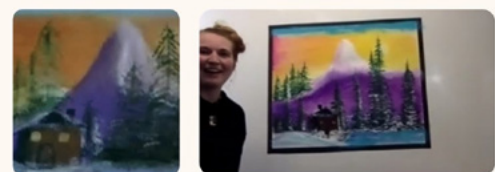
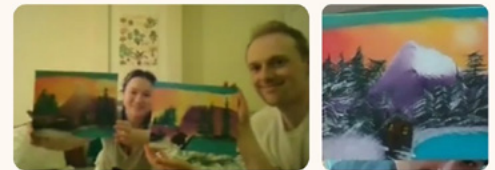
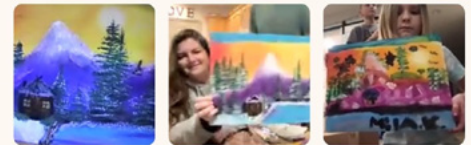
Suggested items:

- Canned fruits & veggies
- Canned meat
- Canned beans & soup
- Cereal & granola bars
- Whole grain pasta & rice
- Peanut butter & nuts

We will be collecting donation in the Student Center (CC300).



Date and Paint

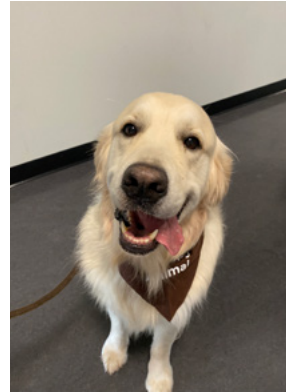


STUDENT LIFE / ASBTC

Wag Wednesday

BTC went to the dogs on February 9! Jarett Seiden, Director of Finance for ASBTC, coordinated with a great local volunteer organization, Whatcom Therapy Dogs, to bring some wonderful four-legged friends to BTC's campus. Whatcom Therapy Dogs has promoted positive interactions to lower anxiety and stress for the BTC community during these difficult times. Campus members had a blast petting, playing with, and taking selfies with the great dogs who visited us. Check out ASBTC on Instagram by following @btc_as to check out some photos from the event!

A special thanks to Pat Holmes, Chris Monroe, Chris/Eli, Lauri/Kingston, Tessa/Arnold, Jolyn/Juno, Ginny/Blaze, Theresa/Raffi, and Dan/Doc for volunteering their time to help students and faculty at BTC.



GET READY FOR OUR SITE VISIT: KNOW YOUR KPIS

BTC's year seven accreditation visit is set to take place virtually in a couple short months on **April 27th-29th**. Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) members will be touring existing meetings soon to help everyone prepare. We'll also be using this space to review a selection of our campus' Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) each month until our visit. The KPIs were developed by employees and students on campus to evaluate our success in achieving our 2018-23 strategic plan goals, and ultimately, fulfilling the school's mission. In this edition, we'll review our quantitative KPI related to **student access**.

KPI 1. Student Access measures the extent to which BTC students from certain demographic groups (students with a disability, low-income students, students of color, and students who are veterans) are representative of the Whatcom County population. Each year, BTC measures its progress on this KPI by comparing student enrollment rates to Whatcom County US Census rates for individuals between 18-64 years old (the age groups that we primarily serve at BTC).

In 2020-21, BTC fell just short of its goal of enrolling students from each demographic group at or above the rate they are observed in Whatcom County, and instead we met our standard/minimum of enrolling all demographic groups at rates within 5% of Whatcom County's rates. In all, BTC enrolled:

- students with a disability at a rate equal to that observed in Whatcom County (11% for both BTC and Whatcom County),
- low-income students at a rate 1% above Whatcom County (15% BTC, 14% Whatcom County),
- students of color at a rate 13% above Whatcom County (34% BTC, 21% Whatcom County), and
- students who are veterans at a rate 1% below the Whatcom County rate (4% BTC, 5% Whatcom County).

The most up to date results for each KPI are available on the [Key Performance Indicator Dashboard](#), and BTC employees can use their network login to find [more detail on each KPI](#). Feel free to contact Diana Knight (dknight@btc.edu) with any additional questions.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

안녕하세요 Annyeonghaseyo (Hello) Campus Community,

A question that often arises on campuses across this country is what does Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) do? DEI wants to make sure that this question is always answered, and that our community is fully aware of the work we are doing to strive to make BTC a more equitable and inclusive community. As we are newer employees with a new vision for DEI, campus transparency is of the utmost importance! Please take a moment to see a sampling of the work we have put together in our first quarter!

We held over a dozen trainings on campus throughout the fall quarter to help support the continued learning around DEI for employees and students. We collaborated with other schools in the area to bring an amazing program for Indigenous Peoples day that highlighted **Matika Wilbur**, an local artist based out of Seattle.

The DEI office sits on over 10 campus and community committees/working groups ranging from Healthy Whatcom, to the BTC Teaching and Learning Academy (TLA) Advisory Committee, to the SBCTC Diversity and Equity Officers Commission.

Hiring and retention of historically underrepresented community members is a priority at BTC. DEI has started a pilot program to provide support and funding to enable a more diverse search process. During this pilot process we were able to hire Danielle Humphreys as the new DEI specialist in December.

DEI, along with the DEI Committee (DEIC), put forth a proposal for all gender bathrooms. Single stall bathrooms on BTC's campus are now in the process of being changed to all gender and we continue to work with facilities to move into the second phase of the proposal that will provide even more options with inclusive multi-stall bathrooms.

As we continue into the Winter quarter, DEI is dedicating time to the creation of affinity groups and a student/employee campus climate survey! We look forward to the substantial and amazing work that we can provide the BTC community!

감사합니다 gamsahamnida (Thank you) and have a wonderful week!

Hannah and Danielle

BTC supports Black History Month and wanted to let our community know that **WVU's Black History Month Events** are open for registration!

Please join Whatcom Community College, Bellingham Technical College, and Skagit Valley College for **Black History Month Programming!** All sessions will be delivered FREE via Zoom and are **open to students, staff, and community members**; no registration required.

Future programming includes:

- February 17: Spoken Word and Slam Poetry of the Revolution
([Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 785 945 0498)
- February 24 : Listen & Learn (Podcast and Discussion)
([Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 878 7259 7566)
- March 4 : Building a Rainbow Coalition Panel & Discussion
([Zoom](#) Meeting ID: 785 945 0498)

Check your calendar for these upcoming events!



CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM

Brian McDonald, BTC's Culinary Arts program instructor has two sections of the Culinary Skill Development II course running right now, with fruit cutting as a one week topic. He shared photos of this weeks' student fruit cutting platters from class. Amazing and yum!



INSTRUCTION

Caren Kongshaug has been working on a Curriculum Project for the SBCTC for Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE), to create a 10-hour culturally responsive hybrid bridge module for English Language Learners (ELL) students to prepare them for an **I-Best program** or other college pathways. Her module focusses on academic reading and will be easily and freely accessed through Commons. This project will be reviewed by the committee and then will be finalized. Caren and BTC are especially proud of this work as it meets accessibility, universal design for learning (UDL), and e-learning standards that she has been trained in as well as includes Reading Apprenticeship routines and dimensions of learning.

PURCHASING

Need help with a purchase requisition? Stuck on a transaction while reallocating your PCARD? Have questions about a contract you are working on? There's somewhere you can go to get the help you need!

Purchasing drop-in hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesdays (except holidays) **from 4–5 pm January 31–March 25, 2022.** Hours will be updated for spring quarter by the end of March and posted to the [Purchasing SharePoint site](#), where you can also find the Zoom meeting ID and a direct link.

SHIFT

Rachael Wright, BTC's Welding program instructor and founder of SHIFT (Students Helping build an Inclusive Future in the Trades) at BTC donated a custom steel side table in support of the Washington Women in Trades online auction. This organization does some great work to support tradeswomen in Washington State and SHIFT is currently working to collaborate with them on future events with our students and campus community.



MARKETING: PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Here is the new Project Request Form link:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/84888d17ecbd4aba933f9e02158fc9ab>

And here is where you will submit all Notable News from now on:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/d78cd45219b845d493f04711c049e527>